

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1232

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 2006

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, RP

SUBJECT: STATE VISIT OF PRINCE JUAN CARLOS DE BORBON

SUMMARY: FOUR DAY STATE VISIT BY PRINCE JUAN CARLOS DE BORBON OF SPAIN COMPLETED FEB 21 WAS GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL, MARKED BY MINOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT, TALKS ON TRADE AND TOURISM AND SUBSTANTIAL SOCIALIZING. ONLY MATTER OF SUBSTANCE WAS APPARENTLY UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT OF SPANISH TO OBTAIN GOP AGREEMENT TO EXTEND NATIONAL TREATMENT TO SPANISH IN PHILIPPINES. END SUMMARY.

1. PRINCE JUAN CARLOS DE BORBON OF SPAIN COMPLETED ON FEB 21 SUCCESSFUL FOUR DAY STATE VISIT AS THE HIGHEST-RANKING SPANIARD EVER TO VISIT PHILIPPINES. THE VISIT LAID HEAVY EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND THE SPANISH MESTIZO ELITE HAS BEEN IN STATE OF RAPTURE FOR DAYS.

2. WHILE NOT MUCH OF SUBSTANCE ACCOMPLISHED, A SUBJECT OF POTENTIAL IMPORTANCE WAS RAISED. IN HIS SPEECH AT STATE DINNER FEB 20, PRINCE JUAN CARLOS ALLUDED TO PRESIDENT
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MARCOS' DESIRE CONCLUDE WITH SPAIN "AN AGREEMENT ON NATION-

ALITY, THROUGH WHICH FILIPINOS IN SPAIN AND SPANIARDS IN THE PHILIPPINES WOULD ENJOY RECIPROCALLY THE RIGHTS OF NATIONALS." PRESIDENT MARCOS CONFIRMED AT BRIEF AIRPORT INTERVIEW THAT AN AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE NEGOTIATED BUT GAVE NO DETAILS IN HIS STATEMENT.

3. A FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN JOINT FIELDS OF INTEREST WAS SIGNED AND A JOINT COMMISSION FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREED UPON. REPORTEDLY THE TWO LEADERS AGREED THAT MORE COOPERATIVE VENTURES SHOULD BE LAUNCHED IN TOURISM, SHIPBUILDING AND LOW COST HOUSING AND THAT SPANISH INVESTMENT IN THESE FIELDS IN THE PHILIPPINES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

4. PRINCE JUAN CARLOS' REMARKS AT FEB 19 STATE DINNER CONSTITUTED CLEAR PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR MARCOS, DESCRIBING HIS TERM OF OFFICE AS ONE "MOST WORTHY OF ADMIRATION AND RESPECT."

5. COMMENT: DFA UNDERSECRETARY COLLANTES TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT PRINCIPAL GOAL OF SPANISH WAS TO OBTAIN NATIONAL TREATMENT AGREEMENT FROM GOP BUT THAT GOP COULD NOT AGREE TO REQUEST AS MADE. EMBASSY DOES NOT YET HAVE DETAILS OF REQUEST BUT ACCORDING TO SPANISH AMBASSADOR, SPANISH PARTY SOUGHT DUAL RIGHTS EXTENDED TO SPAIN BY SOME LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. PRESUMABLY PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT AIRPORT INDICATE GOP MAY BE WILLING TO CONSIDER GRANTING SOME SORT OF DUALITY FOR DELICADEZA PURPOSES WITHOUT OFFERING NATIONAL TREATMENT SOUGHT BY SPANISH IN ECONOMIC AREA. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER AS GOP INTENTIONS CLARIFIED.
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